



AN AWFUL CATASTROPHE.

Another Horror Added to the Long List that Have Startled New York City.

SUCCESSION OF TERRIFIC EXPLOSIONS.

Over Ninety Persons Known to Have Been Injured—Number of Dead Unknown—Great Buildings Destroyed and Streets Stripped With Debris—Money Scattered Like Seeds on the Sahara.

New York, Oct. 30.—The long list of fire horrors that have occurred in and around New York, a list that includes the Royal hotel fire, the Park place disaster, and the Windsor and Hoboken fires, was added to yesterday by a fire and explosion that shook the lower end of Manhattan like an earthquake, hurled a seven-story building into the air, and set fire to two blocks of buildings, with a loss of life that only the efforts of hundreds of men who were rushed to the work of digging away the ruins as soon as the fire was extinguished, will reveal.

Where the Fire Originated.

The big building of Tarrant & Co., makers of medicinal specialties, standing at the northwest corner of Greenwich and Warren street, and filled with chemicals, took fire in some way that may never be known at about a quarter after twelve yesterday afternoon. It was sixteen minutes after noon that a citizen rushed into the house of fire engine 29, on Chambers street, near Greenwich, and shouted that Tarrant's drug store was on fire. He had seen a volume of black smoke coming from the third-story window. An alarm was turned in. Soon afterwards second and third alarms were turned in.

A Terrific Explosion Occurred.

One fire company had just arrived when a terrific explosion occurred, and threw the entire engine's crew down the stairway. The firemen, realizing the danger of their position, rushed out of the building to the street.

The explosion had filled the street in front with a shower of falling glass and small debris, which sent the crowd, which had already gathered on the opposite sidewalk, fleeing for safety, and caused the horses hitched to the engines to rear and try to get away.

More Awful than the First.

Capt. Devaney, of the company, ordered his crew back into the building again. They were dragging the line to the doorway for the second time when came another explosion, more terrific than the first, and the whole crew was hurled across Greenwich street, Devaney being so badly injured that he was sent to a hospital.

Rescuing the People.

In the meantime the other engines that had responded to the alarm had collected, and the firemen were busy rescuing people from surrounding buildings. Firemen had already taken many girls down the only fire escape upon the building, and more persons had been carried down the "scapes of the Home-made restaurant next door and the buildings adjoining on Warren street.

Building Leaped into the Air.

The second explosion occurred about five minutes after the first. From the accounts of witnesses, the building seemed to leap into the air, and in a moment masses of brick wall, timbers and stone were falling into the street. The force of the explosion tore away the walls of the big commission storehouses fronting on Washington street, and caused them to collapse, falling all at once in a mass of timbers, boxes and barrels, of which the flames which burst out from the Tarrant building like the leaping of a cannon, at once took hold.

Leaped Across the Street.

Across Warren street to the opposite buildings the flames leaped, setting them all afire at once, the force of the explosion demolishing windows and all wooden structures about the houses. In a moment Warren street was choked with a mass of debris, and the whole place was aflame. The great explosion was followed by half a dozen more scarcely less intense, and by a countless number of smaller ones.

A Great Catastrophe.

The explosion and fire together had now assumed the proportions of a great catastrophe, and it was thought that hundreds of lives had been lost. Thousands of people were rushing about in the nearby streets, many of them panic-stricken, fleeing from the fire. They mingled in the crowd that was rushing down from Broadway to see what had happened.

The Scene in the Streets.

Half an hour after the explosion the streets for blocks around the fire were crowded with fire apparatus, with a score of ambulances, while hundreds of police were being rushed from all the lower precincts of the city to form lines, and many priests from nearby parishes were going here and there in the smoke-obscured thoroughfares, seeking for injured who might need their aid. From the burning districts a column of smoke was rising high in the air, mingled with flames that could not be controlled by hundreds of streams thrown upon them.

Destruction in Every Direction.

The second explosion carried destruction in every direction. That it did not cause a wholesale loss of life was due to the fact that almost ten minutes' warning came after the first of fire—a cry that was real warn-

ing to people who knew the character of the chemicals in the burning building—and fully five minutes occurred between the first and minor explosion, which warned every one within hearing, and the second one.

Carried Away on a Road Station.

The big explosion completely carried away the station of the Ninth Avenue Elevated road, and the mass of masonry that fell with it broke through the flooring and almost demolished the structure just below the building. Immense masses of masonry, pieces of cornice, great beams, window casings and an indescribable mass of wreckage of every description tumbled suddenly into the street in front of the building, all at once.

Nearly Wrecked the Irving Bank.

The wreckage was thrown through the windows of the building which is the northeast corner of the streets. The offices of the Irving bank and of McKlen Bros., bankers and brokers, were nearly wrecked.

At the first explosion an attempt was made to gather all the money and paper that was lying on the counters together and to throw them into the safe, and it was supposed that this had been done when the second explosion brought flying glass and plastering from the skylighted ceilings down about the heads of everybody and caused them to escape in a hurry.

Money Scattered in Confusion.

Capt. McClusky, of the detective bureau, who hurried every available man of his staff to the fire, was appealed to protect the funds of the bank, he being told that they were in the vault, the door of which was supposed to be unlocked. When the captain and his men went in, however, they found about ten thousand dollars scattered in confusion over counters and floors. This was hastily thrown into the vault and the door locked.

Where American Pluck Came In.

President Fancher of the bank arrived within a few minutes of the start of the fire, and was nearly hysterical when he found what had happened. By half-past two, however, the directors of the bank had met and posted a sign in the window stating that the bank would "do business tomorrow."

Masses of Wealth Lying Around.

Down in McKlen Bros.' offices in the basement there were H. B. McKlen and his brother William, with Frank Heckenberry, a boy; Thomas Hackett, a clerk; another man named Bruce and some girls, among them Ellen Van Deen and May Dunkle-mann. When the fire broke out \$90,000 in money lay upon the counter. Heckenberry was stationed at the door, while this was gathered together for putting in the vault.

Force was Exerted Horizontally.

The second explosion completely demolished windows along Greenwich street, on both sides and for three blocks in both directions. The force of the explosion was exerted horizontally across the street, skylights being carried away as if by a storm, and the casings of doors broken away with the glass. The explosion did not spare the interiors of stores, everything being heaped up in confusion.

Tore Down Buildings.

The explosion tore down the buildings to the west, the walls of those on the Washington street side being hurled outward to across the street. At the time of the explosion blazing barrels were hurled clear across Washington street and set fire to the buildings to the west, threatening an extension of the conflagration in that direction, but the firemen deluged these buildings and saved them.

Immense Buildings Collapsed.

The immense buildings of J. H. Mohlmann & Co., fronting on Washington street, simply collapsed, a deluge of barrels and boxes, filled with fruit, rolling out and forming a pile that stretched half way across the street. At the time of the explosion blazing barrels were hurled clear across Washington street and set fire to the buildings to the west, threatening an extension of the conflagration in that direction, but the firemen deluged these buildings and saved them.

Wild Reports of Loss of Life.

The first reports of the fire that went out were that the Tarrant building, in its fall, had crushed down upon two crowded restaurants and buried a hundred or more in each. Subsequent examination showed that if any persons were caught in these places it was the kitchen help and very few outsiders, if anybody. A man who watched the fire from across the street, said that the crowd in the restaurant was evidently warned, and swarmed out after the first explosion, everybody being out when the second explosion came.

Another Restaurant in Peril.

A restaurant on the south side of Warren street was in as much danger, nearly, and the building was totally destroyed by the fire, but it was said that the crowd got out of this also. It was thought that the cooks in the Buckley restaurant and some of the guests who tried to escape by a rear alley might have been caught.

Where the Loss of Life Occurred.

Outside of a few who were injured in the streets, the loss of life by the fire and explosion must have occurred in the Tarrant building mainly, and possibly in the other buildings destroyed by the fire.

Loss of Life As Uncertain Quantity.

The number of persons in the Tarrant building was estimated to be in the neighborhood of fifty. Secretary Allen of the company said that there were 45 employees, and he thought all got out with the exception of one. People who saw the fire declared, however, that more must have been lost. The tabulated list of the injured already exceeds ninety, while the number of those who lost their lives is as yet unknown.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Recent Deaths.

William Ten Eyck, at his home in St. James, after a short illness with pneumonia, aged 73. Mr. Ten Eyck had been a prominent figure in Phelps county, and two years ago was the republican nominee for representative. He was born at Curwinstown, Pa., and came to Missouri 31 years ago.

Dr. G. W. Rothwell, widely known throughout central Missouri, at the home of his son-in-law, D. W. Williams, north of Sedalia, aged 88. Dr. Rothwell was born in Albermarle county, Virginia, his father's farm adjoining Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's home. He graduated from the University of Virginia, and with his bride, emigrated to Salline county, in this state, where he commenced the practice of medicine.

Judge B. F. Simms, of Farmington, at Jackson. He was judge of the St. Francois county court for many years, and a man of sterling character.

A Fatal Shooting.

Mayo Rodman shot and killed Chas. Davis at his home, ten miles west of Auxvasse, Callaway county. Both men were well-to-do farmers and lived on adjoining farms. Rodman was walking south on the east side of a hedge fence which divides their farms, and Davis was coming north on the opposite side. Each was on his own premises. Davis was about 45 years old. He came from Indiana about fourteen years ago and leaves a widow and five children. Rodman has but one arm, is about 40, and unmarried. They had been quarreling for several years and had had a shooting affray about a year ago, in which Rodman was wounded. The trouble is said to have grown out of Rodman's attention to Davis' daughter.

Reward Offered for Robbers.

Sheriff Ewing of Vernon county has received notice from Jefferson City that Gov. Stephens has offered \$200 reward for the capture of the Brown and Woodman camp at Bronaugh has also offered \$100 more. These sums, added to the \$200 offered by the Bankers' association, of which Mr. Bronaugh was a member; the \$250 offered by the Vernon county court, and the \$200 offered by Banker Bronaugh, owner of the bank, bring the sum up to \$950. It is likely this amount will be further increased by the company in which the bank was insured against loss.

Shot a Night Prowler.

Miles Skeen was shot and instantly killed by Patrick Grimes at Brownington, a mining village ten miles southeast of Clinton. Coroner Gibbons was called and the investigation advised evidence to the effect that Skeen had been prowling about the premises of Grimes after night for some time. A noise at Grimes' window at night attracted his attention. He discharged his shotgun at the figure of a man, who proved to be Skeen, almost severing his neck. Skeen had been divorced. The jury returned a verdict of justifiable homicide.

Became Suddenly Insane.

William Mullins, a farmer four miles north of Springfield, created a sensation at Eisenmeyer's mill by suddenly losing his mind and becoming a raving maniac. He had brought a load of wheat to market, and while at the mill completely lost his reason.

A Long Funeral Procession.

By far the largest funeral ever seen in Bronaugh, or probably in Vernon county, was that of the late Constable Wm. Moren, who lost his life in a fight with the Bronaugh bank robbers. The procession was over a mile long.

The Heirs Won.

The heirs of Hans Lawther, who filed a petition in the probate court of Callaway county, recently, to have their father declared of unsound mind and incapable of managing his large estate, are victorious. The case came up the other day.

For Insulting Young Women.

Special Officer T. Rosser Roemer, of St. Louis, who was charged with having insulted and assaulted (by nudging) three young women, was fined \$25 for the offense, he having absolutely refused to sign an apology.

A Heavy Weight.

Fourth street, St. Louis, is becoming more and more a heavy-weight in the community. A granite pillar weighing 50,000 pounds has just been planted in front of one of the buildings there.

Four Brothers for the Philippines.

Four sturdy brothers in the uniform of Uncle Sam, enlisted for service in the army of the Philippines, is the record of the Shanks family of St. Louis.

Fell From a Persimmon Tree.

George W. Nichols, aged 12, 4133 Swan avenue, St. Louis, was killed in Forest park, falling from a persimmon tree, breaking his neck.

St. Louis Registration.

A revision of the registration list of St. Louis shows a total registration of 133,111, an increase of 3,650 over the enrollment of 1896.

His Horse Fell.

G. W. Phillips, of Sullivan, was killed by his horse falling with him, while cantering leisurely along a smooth road. His neck was broken.

IS PRACTICALLY UNANIMOUS.

Nearly all the Coal Companies Have Granted the Increase and the Others Will Follow.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 28.—All the coal companies in the Wyoming valley, with a few exceptions, have now posted notices granting their employees the ten per cent. increase asked for by the Scranton convention. The exceptions are a few individual operators who do not employ many hands. But it is said that when the men employed at these collieries report for work to-morrow, they will be told that they will receive the same wages paid by the other companies.

The Kingston Coal Co. had notices posted to-day granting the increase. This company employs 2,300 men, and was the last of the big individual concerns in the valley to grant the increase.

The officials of the Susquehanna company had a conference with their employees Saturday night and agreed to pay them the advance.

President Mitchell and the executive board of the United Mine Workers visited Pittston this afternoon. They were received by a large crowd, and there was the greatest enthusiasm. Addresses were made by President Mitchell, Fred Dichter and others. Mr. Mitchell told all the miners to go to work to-morrow. He also congratulated them on their good behavior during the strike.

"Parades signaling the miners' success were held in every town in the anthracite region Saturday night. Hundreds of breaker boys turned out.

SEVEN INCHES IN 24 HOURS.

Wisconsin Visited by a Destructive Deluge—Trains Delayed and Much Damage Done.

Lacrosse, Wis., Oct. 29.—In the 24 hours preceding eight o'clock yesterday morning seven and a quarter inches of rain fell in this city. The storm was the severest in this vicinity, although it was generally felt within a radius of 50 miles from here. The Milwaukee road suffered much damage to its tracks, and no trains arrived from the east for 24 hours. The Lacrosse river marshes are flooded, and most of the hay that escaped the last flood has been destroyed. On H. Goodard's farm, the house was undermined and the family sought refuge in a tree, where they remained until rescued yesterday.

The Green Bay road has a washout on the marshes, which will require some days to repair. At Hohok, the dam which held in Lake Como, broke yesterday, and the lake has almost disappeared. There is a good deal of damage through the country. A fire caused by electricity damaged the Lacrosse knitting works to the extent of several thousand dollars.

MARKED FOR MISFORTUNE.

A Family of Ten Children Reduced to Four in Three Weeks—Four Drowned Yesterday.

Port Clinton, O., Oct. 29.—A quadruple drowning occurred near Plaster Bend, on Sandusky bay, eight miles east of here, yesterday afternoon. The drowned are: Douglass Stark, aged three years. Geo. Stark, aged five years. Alfred Stark, aged eight years. Henry Stark, aged 13 years. They were the children of William Stark.

Mr. Stark and the children went for a boat ride yesterday afternoon. On returning to shore the boat became fouled in a fish net, and the crewman could neither force the boat ahead nor go back. The children became frightened, and learning over the side of the small craft, capsize it.

Mr. Stark came here from Toledo three weeks ago. He then had a family of a wife and ten children. Last week Harvey, aged four, died, and the week before another child, aged three months, also died.

TWO YOUNG MEN DROWNED.

Their Canoe Capsized in a Fog and Their Shouts for Aid Could Not Be Answered.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 28.—Torrey Carr, a son of B. O. Carr, and brother of E. M. Carr, of this city, and Clark C. Carr, son of Gen. Clark E. Carr, of Galesburg, Ill., were drowned in Lake Washington, early yesterday morning, while duck hunting from a canoe. The bodies have not been recovered. E. M. Carr is a prominent lawyer here and Gen. C. E. Carr is a prominent campaign speaker sent out from Illinois by the republican national committee. He was an intimate friend of President Lincoln, and was several years ago, minister to Denmark. The young men left this city early this morning and at about seven o'clock were heard shouting for help by other hunters. A few hours later the fog lifted and their canoe was found floating bottom up. Two steamers chartered by friends searched all day for their bodies.

Steamer Falls City Partially Burned.

Louisville, Ky., Oct. 29.—The stern-wheel steamer Falls City was partially destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. Loss, \$8,000. The boat cost \$40,000, belonged to the Kentucky River Packet and Towboat Co., and plied between Louisville and Frankfort. The origin of the fire is not known.

Heavy Registration in Canton.

Canton, O., Oct. 29.—The registration of voters, which closed here Saturday, shows a total registration of 4,101 voters, a gain of 519 over the registration in 1896.

NOTES FROM WASHINGTON

Observations of Capital Correspondent on Roosevelt and Hanna.

RAMBLINGS OF REPUBLICAN LEADERS.

Working People of New York Have No Use for Roosevelt-Hanna's Skulking in Bryan's Territory—Financial Operators Are Against Bryan.

[Special Correspondence.]

Republican managers are hoping that Roosevelt's western trip has injured his voice enough that his New York campaign may be curtailed. New York shows every indication of going democratic, and Roosevelt is likely to increase the Bryan vote by going over the same territory this week.

The working people of New York state have no use for Gov. Roosevelt. He has always posed to the public as an objector to sweat shops, yet during his term of office he reappointed an inspector of licenses who was notoriously in league with the contractors who "sweat" the tenement house workers.

Large quantities of ready-made clothing are manufactured in the tenement district of New York city. Wage-workers of all classes and many other citizens have for years labored to separate the home and the workshop. This, partly for the benefit of the workers and partly to protect the public health. It was found that garments made in sweat shops are ready carriers of the disease germs with which they were often impregnated in the unsanitary homes of the tenement house workers.

After many years of effort laws have been passed regulating the manufacture of clothing in these districts. Each contractor was obliged to comply with certain conditions and take out a license. The license inspector was the judge whether the law was being observed or not. His position is one of great importance. Yet Roosevelt reappointed a man who was known to favor the contractors and wink at wholesale evasion of law.

Then, too, Roosevelt will have an opportunity in New York city and state to explain to the wage-workers why he favors government by injunction. He cannot deny that he did so in an article he wrote to the Review of Reviews two years ago. The files of the magazine are easily obtainable.

Next Roosevelt will have the pleasure of explaining to the inhabitants of trust-dismantled towns how that condition makes them prosperous. There are a number of towns in New York state where the trusts have closed factories and practically wiped out the town.

For Roosevelt to Explain.

The farmers in that state will be pleased to hear Roosevelt explain why he did not punish the canal ring thieves, as he pledged himself to do before being elected governor. All the citizens will desire some explanation of why he has systematically neglected his duties as governor for the last two months in order to prance about the country in a rough rider suit and tell tales of his bravery which originated solely in his own imagination.

It will be interesting to know why Gov. Roosevelt has not prosecuted the ice trust, about which he talks so volubly when he is outside of his own state. It will be only fair for him to admit at home, that a majority of the stockholders in the aforesaid trust are republicans. While he is about it he might tell the public confidentially why he has not pushed Mayor Van Wyck's letter to him in relation to the ice trust, forwarded at least two weeks ago.

Just at this season of the year the coal trust is occupying more space in the public mind than the ice trust. Roosevelt might explain why Hanna has not actually secured that beggarly ten per cent. advance in wages for the coal miners. More than a week ago Perry Heath announced to an awe-stricken public that Hanna held the whole situation in the hollow of his capacious hand, and that he by his might as a political boss had forced the coal combine to give the men an advance in wages. Now Roosevelt, being next to Hanna, the most prominent republican in evidence, might tell us just how it happens that the miners are still out of employment, and the public is paying two dollars a ton more for coal than it did four weeks ago, when the strike began.

Hanna's Bravado.

Hanna found the management of the republican campaign so little to his taste this year that he could not deny himself the satisfaction of going into Bryan's country—when the latter was absent—and abusing and vilifying him. Likewise Hanna traveled over Senator Pettigrew's country, but lacked courage to meet his fellow senator in joint debate. It is noticeable that Hanna failed to disprove any of the statements about his own political crookedness that Pettigrew had spread on the congressional record during the closing days of the session. Hanna has increased the fusion vote in both South Dakota and Nebraska. It is a pity he cannot be induced to speak in his home state. The workmen of Cleveland are anxious to ask him a few questions. They have ready the record of his blacklist and destruction of the Lake Seamen's union. They want to ask him about the Bessemer iron ore trust in which he has large interest. In Ohio Hanna would have able-bodied men to talk to, not parades of school children and deputations of reservation Indians and ladies' McKinley clubs. The cam-

paign is more argumentative in the east. The democrats and populists in South Dakota and Nebraska practically ignored Hanna. In Ohio the Bryan workingmen would come to his meetings and ask him hard questions.

One Cause of Low Wages.

The wage-workers have it pretty clearly in mind that one reason why they get such low wages in this time of trust prosperity is that the product of their labor must be made to pay dividends—not on actual investment—but on millions of dollars worth of watered stock. The New York Herald of September 28 estimated that the nine men who met in Pierpont Morgan's office to confer on the anthracite coal strike owned or controlled \$2,500,000,000 worth of securities.

The interest and dividend on this large amount must come from labor. Most of it is fictitious value, but the interest must be paid just the same. These securities are owned by a small but enormously rich class of people living in financial centers. Of course they are opposed to the election of Bryan. They know that his administration will force them to make public the character of their capitalization.

They know that with Bryan president it will be difficult for them to starve men to the limit now endured by those in the coal fields in order to declare dividends. With a representative of labor as a cabinet officer the conditions of the wage-workers and the prices paid for their labor will be quite as important as any other branch of government.

All the trusts are trying to frighten their employees into voting for McKinley, but coercion does not work as well as it did in '96. The workingmen have concluded that the time has come to make a stand for the right to cast a free ballot. The democrats propose to see that the Bryan votes are all counted, too. Their precinct organization is pretty thorough, and will be a great protection to the voters.

ADOLPH PATTERSON.

HANNA'S DEFEAT SURE

Former Governor Altgeld Says the Tide Is Against Imperialism.

Crime at the Ballot Box Is the Only Way McKinley Can Be Re-elected—Tactics of 1896 Are Being Recreated To.

In a recent letter to W. R. Hearst, editor of the Chicago American, John P. Altgeld, former governor of Illinois, says:

"W. R. Hearst, Editor Chicago American: I have been in a number of western states. I have been in the middle states and I have been somewhat over the east, and I find everywhere the tide is running with irresistible force against the present administration.

"Thousands of republicans everywhere feel that the only way to save our institutions and to again make the republican party a great moral force in the country is to overthrow this Hanna administration.

"The republican managers see this and are devoting their principle efforts to underground work. They see that if the sentiment of the American people is crystallized into the ballot box and honestly counted more than 75 per cent. of it will be against McKinley.

Crime at the Ballot Box.

"They see that the only way in which they can hope to accomplish anything is to resort to crime. Crime at the ballot box is today the only hope of the party that was once headed by Lincoln.

"In New York Mr. Odell is running for governor, but he is making no speeches and is not discussing the issues of the day. He spends all his time at the Fifth Avenue hotel giving out checks.

Is a Campaign of Bribery.

"Their plan of campaign all along the line is to make 'money' out of the democratic judges and clerks of election and the democratic challengers and watchers, wherever this is possible. Wherever they can make a 'good fellow' out of a democratic judge, there they will carry the election.

"The counting of 20, 30, 40 or 50 democratic tickets and marking them in the republican column is an easy thing, and in the slum precincts, or wherever the voters are not well known, the arbitrary adding of a hundred or a hundred and fifty votes that were never cast to the republican column and the certifying to it in the returns is a simple and an easy matter.

Tactics of 1896 Repeated.

"These were the methods resorted to in '96 and are being used by the present administration. The last registration here in Chicago demonstrates conclusively what has already been proved; that is, that the upward sweep upwards of 70,000 fraudulent votes returned in this city alone. The figures also show that in this first registration the republican column in excess of 40,000 names on the list in excess of the legal voters that are in the city.

"These fraudulent schemes can only be successfully worked by the liberal use of money. Men will not take the chance of going to the penitentiary unless they are paid for it.

Democrats Work in the Daylight.

"The democrats have no money, and are obliged to make an open campaign in the sunlight and appeal to the patriotism and the conscience of the American people. If our people will be on the alert and let it be understood that any man who attempts to commit a crime at the polls will be sent to the penitentiary, we will carry Cook county by 40,000 majority and will sweep this country from end to end.

Americans, Guard Your Birthright.

"Every man in this land, whether republican or democrat, should give election day from daylight to the morning, and after midnight, when the votes have been returned, to his country. See to it that the freedom of America is not swindled out of their birthright.

"JOHN P. ALTGELD."

—Mr. Bryan has grown strong in popular favor since he spoke in Syracuse four years ago and to a degree that can hardly be calculated. He is today universally recognized as the incarnation of the idea of popular rule and government of the people along the lines established by the framers of the constitution and the founders of republican